

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. **(Currently Amended)**. An ophthalmic device comprising a polymer and at least one silver releasing compound in a concentration sufficient to provide ionized silver in an initial concentration of between about 50 and about 3,000 ppm, wherein said ophthalmic device has a haze of less than about 200% and said silver releases from said ophthalmic device during use at rate with a rate constant, calculated using a first order kinetics equation, of ~~up to about  $1 \text{ days}^{-1}$~~  between about  $0.001$  and about  $0.5 \text{ days}^{-1}$ .

2. **(Canceled)**

3. **(Original)** The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said rate constant is between about  $0.01$  and about  $0.3 \text{ days}^{-1}$ .

4. **(Original)** The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said rate constant is between about  $0.001$  and about  $0.2 \text{ days}^{-1}$ .

Claims 5-7 **(Canceled)**.

8. **(Original)** The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said initial silver concentration and rate constant are sufficient to provide an at least about 50% reduction in microbial activity over said device's use.

9. **(Original)** The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said ophthalmic device is a contact lens.

10. **(Original)** The contact lens of claim 9 wherein said initial silver concentration and rate constant are maintained below amounts which would cause argyria.

11. **(Original)** The contact lens of claim 9 wherein after about a day said silver releases from said ophthalmic device during use at a rate with a rate constant , calculated using a first order kinetics equation of up to about  $1 \text{ day}^{-1}$ .
12. **(Original)** The contact lens of claim 9 is substantially free from visible haze.
13. **(Original)** The contact lens of claim 9 having less than 150% haze.
14. **(Original)** The contact lens of claim 9 having less than 100% haze.
15. **(Original)** The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said polymer further comprises a ligand to which said silver is releasably bound.
16. **(Original)** The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said ophthalmic device is a contact lens and said initial silver concentration and rate constant are sufficient to provide an at least about 50% reduction in microbial activity over said device's use.
17. **(Original)** The contact lens of claim 9 wherein said use is continuous wear for at least 14 days.
18. **(Original)** The contact lens of claim 9 wherein said use is continuous wear for at least 30 days.
19. **(Original)** The contact lens of claim 9 wherein said silver releases from said contact lens during use in an amount sufficient to provide at least a 70% reduction in bacterial activity over said use.
20. **(Original)** The contact lens of claim 9 wherein said silver releases from said contact lens during use in an amount sufficient to provide at least a 90% reduction in bacterial activity over said use.

21. **(Original)** The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said silver releasing compound has a molar solubility of silver ion in pure water of about 25°C of about  $2.0 \times 10^{-30}$  moles/L to about 2 moles/L.
22. **(Original)** The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said silver releasing compound has a molar solubility of silver ion in pure water of greater than about  $2.0 \times 10^{-17}$  moles/L.
23. **(Original)** The contact lens of claim 9 wherein said polymer comprises a silicone hydrogel.
24. **(Previously Presented)** The contact lens of claim 23 wherein said silicone hydrogel is selected from the group consisting of senofilcon A, galyfilcon A, lotrafilcon A and balafilcon A.
25. **(Original)** The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said polymer is formed from a reaction mixture comprising at least one silicone-containing component.
26. **(Previously Presented)** The ophthalmic device of claim 25 wherein said reaction mixture further comprises at least one hydrophilic component.
27. **(Original)** The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said ophthalmic device is coated.
28. **(Original)** The contact lens of claim 9 wherein said polymer is formed from a reaction mixture comprising at least one silicone-containing component.
29. **(Previously Presented)** The contact lens of claim 28 wherein said reaction mixture further comprises at least one hydrophilic component.
30. **(Original)** The contact lens of claim 9 wherein said ophthalmic device is coated.
31. **(Original)** The contact lens of claim 9, wherein said lens displays a reduction in microbial colonization of at least about 2 log after two days.

32. **(Original)** The contact lens of claim 9, wherein said lens displays a reduction in microbial colonization of at least about 1 log after two days.

33. **(Original)** The contact lens of claim 9, wherein said lens displays a reduction in microbial colonization of at least about 2 log after 10 days.

34. **(Original)** The contact lens of claim 9, wherein said lens displays a reduction in microbial colonization of at least about 1 log after 10 days.

35. **(Previously Presented).** The contact lens of claim 9, wherein said lens displays a reduction in microbial colonization of at least about .05 log after 30 days.